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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE 8211
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C CLAS STATE 200941

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: OSEN, CASC
SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON JOHN SULLIVAN ENTITLED: "JOHN SULLIVAN, MISSING IN EL SALVADOR: AN UPDATE"

1. THE FOLLOWING PRESS GUIDANCE WAS SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN FOR THE NOON BRIEFING OF JULY 15, 1982

BEGIN TEXT:

Q. WHAT ARE WE DOING TO FOLLOW-UP ON THE STATEMENT BY SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS IN MEXICO THAT SULLIVAN WAS SEEN IN A SALVADORAN PRISON?

A. CONSULAR OFFICERS IN MEXICO ARE ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION FROM THE SALVADORAN GUERRILLAS AND ALLEGED THAT SEVERAL MONTHS AGO OTHER PRISONERS HAD TOLD THEM SULLIVAN WAS IN JAIL IN EL SALVADOR. WE HAVE ALSO ASKED OFFICIALS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS WHO VISIT SALVADORAN PRISONS IF THEY HAVE SEEN ANY PRISONER WHO MEETS SULLIVAN'S DESCRIPTION. AMERICAN

CONSULAR OFFICERS HAVE VISITED SALVADORAN PRISONS ON A VARIETY OF OCCASIONS IN THE PAST, BUT HAVE NEVER SEEN SULLIVAN OR HEARD FROM OTHER PRISONERS THAT HE IS BEING HELD. FINALLY, THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN SAN SALVADOR HAS REPEATEDLY STRESSED U.S. GOVERNMENT CONCERN IN THIS CASE AT THE HIGHEST LEVELS OF THE SALVADORAN GOVERNMENT. EFFORTS TO OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO THE DISCOVERY OF SULLIVAN'S WHEREABOUTS ARE CONTINUING.

END TEXT

(CA/PA : 1030A) SHULTZ
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [illegible] DATE MAR 1 3 1984
RDS☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
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ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS
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FA or FOI EXEMPTIONS